



NEWS RELEASE

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March 2, 2015

Truck's Owner/Driver Charged in Fatal Collision with LAPD Officer

The driver of a truck that collided with an LAPD cruiser last year, killing the officer, has been charged with gross vehicular manslaughter, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Robert Maldonado (dob 6/15/68) was arrested Friday by CHP officers on a felony warrant in case PA083072. He was released on Saturday after posting \$50,000 bond. He is scheduled to be arraigned March 20 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in San Fernando, Department S.

Deputy District Attorney Jack Garden with the Crimes Against Peace Officers Unit is prosecuting the case.

The Pacoima resident, who owns a dump truck company, was driving his truck on March 7, 2014 when the brakes failed and the truck collided with a police cruiser driven by Officer Nicholas Lee. Officer Lee sustained fatal injuries as a result of the collision on Loma Vista Drive in Beverly Hills.

Garden said an investigation by the California Highway Patrol determined that the truck's brakes failed because Maldonado failed to properly maintain and inspect the truck as required by his carrier permit.

If convicted, Maldonado faces up to six years in state prison.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.